Appl. No. 09/490,772 BLD990043US1/IBMN.004US01 Amdt. Dated March 3, 2005 Reply to Office Action of January 3, 2005

IN THE DRAWINGS

In accordance with Examiner's suggestions, Applicant has amended the drawings in view of the Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review. Please accept the attached replacement pages.

REMARKS

The Office Action has been reviewed and carefully considered. Claims 1, 47 and 48 have been amended. Claims 1-18 and 44-68 are pending in the application.

In paragraph 3 on page 2 of the Office Action, corrected drawings were required.

Applicants have attached replacement drawings herein.

In paragraph 4 on page 2 of the Office Action, claims 1, 46 and 47 were objected to.

Applicants respectfully traverse the objections. Applicants believe the Examiner meant to object to claims 47 and 48 instead of claims 46 and 47. Nevertheless, Applications have amended claims 1, 47 and 48 as suggested.

In paragraph 5 on page 3 of the Office Action, claims 1-3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Myers (Patent No. 6,665,672). In paragraph 8 on page 4 of the Office Action, claims 1, 2, 13-15, 44-49, 67 and 68 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Matsuyama (Patent No. 6,330,068). In paragraph 21 on page 6 of the Office Action, claims 50-52, 54, 55, 58 and 59 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Irons (Patent No. 6,427,032).

In paragraph 21 on page 6 of the Office Action, claims 4-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Myers in view of Herriot. On page 13 of the Office Action, claims 3-8 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsuyama in view of Herriot. On page 18 of the Office Action, claims 9 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsuyama and Herriot in further view of Myers. On page 19 of the Office Action, claims 13-18, 44-49, 67 and 68 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Irons in view of McLachlan. On page 22 of the Office Action, claims 53 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Irons in view of Matsuyama. On page 22 of the Office Action, claims 56 and 57 were rejected under 35

U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Irons in view of Matsuyama. On page 23 of the Office Action, claims 60-66 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Irons in view of Matsuyama.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections. Myers fails to disclose, teach or suggest Applicants' invention. Myers discloses a method for providing accounting records for transactions. The Office Action stated that "the transaction" is interpreted as "the object" recited in Applicants' claims. Applicants respectfully disagree with this interpretation. Applicants' claims clearly recited at least "identifying an object in a print data stream." While a "transaction" may conceivably be construed to be the printing of a document, a "transaction" cannot be "in" the print stream. Moreover, the "data object" recited in Applicants' claims unmistakably refers to a data object that is either used to provide control information to a printer or is the object (image file) that is to be printed.

Still further, Meyers discloses that a printer's agent generates an acounting record and saves it for later deposit in an accounting database. The accounting record refered to by Myers includes a globally unique "transaction identifier." However, the globally unique "transaction identifier" is not associated with a data object, but rather is associated with a transaction. The reason that Myer's globally unique "transaction identifier" is associated with the transaction is to identify the type of transaction and agents responsible for the transaction so that an accounting system may charge a party responsible for use of resounces carrying out the transaction. If an agent in Myers prints a document, data objects in a print stream are not assigned a globally unique identifier. Accoridngly, Myers fails to disclose, teach or suggest Applicants invention.

Matsuyama also fails to disclose, teach or suggest Applicants invention. Matsuyama also fails to remedy the deficiencies of Myers. According to Matsuyama, a client computer includes

document editing applications and may convert document data into page descriptive language. The document editing application of the client computer assigns a unique document ID to the document. The image data is stored in an image server. When an image is edited and wants to print a document containing the edited image, the client computer generates a print order containing a history of the editing and sends to a print controller only the editing information that contains the image ID. The print controller processes the print order and a print server receives a print order file provided by the print controller. If the print server retrieves the image file from the image server and prints the document.

Clearly Matsuyama does not teach, disclose or suggest generating at the printing system a globally-unique identifier for assignment to the object. Rather, as described above, the -unique identifier of Matsuyama is provided by the client computer – not the printing system itself.

Accordingly, Matsuyama and Myers, alone or in combination, fail to disclose, teach or suggest Applicants invention.

Irons also fails to disclose, teach or suggest Applicants invention. Irons also fails to remedy the deficiencies of Myers and Matsuyama. Irons fails to disclose a print server, a present ation object, a print data stream or an indicia in a print data stream. Rather, Irons merely discloses a method for providing digital filing. According to Irons, a digital image of a paper-based document includes an image of a pre-printed label. A digital filing application extracts a globally unique identifier from the image of the pre-printed label. Thus, Irons discloses that each document is assigned a unique identifier. The document is then filed.

Irons states that a digital image may be stored in an image server, but Irons does not even mention a print server. Furthermore, Irons is not involved in the details of printing a document and does not even mention a print data stream.

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Accoridngly, Matsuyama, Myers and Irons, alone or in combination, fail to disclose,

teach or suggest Applicants invention.

Herriot and McLachlan are merely cited as discloses the use of globally unique identifiers

based upon an Interantional Standards Organization administered global naming tree, that a

globally unique identifier is platform dependent or that memory may be a part of a printer.

However, Herriot and McLachlan both fails to disclose identifying an object in a print data

stream for presentation by the a printing system and generating at the printing system a globally-

unique identifier for assignment to the object.

Accoridngly, Matsuyama, Myers, Irons, Herriot and McLachlan, alone or in combination,

fail to disclose, teach or suggest Applicants invention.

Dependent claims 2-12, 14-18, 45-49, 51-66 and 65 are also patentable over the

references because they incorporate all of the limitations of the corresponding independent

claims. Further, dependent claims 2-12, 14-18, 45-49, 51-66 and 65 recite additional novel

elements and limitations. Applicants reserve the right to argue independently the patentability of

these additional novel aspects. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that dependent claims

2-12, 14-18, 45-49, 51-66 and 65 are patentable over the cited references.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the restriction requirement is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any questions or comments, a telephone call to the number indicated below

is invited.

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